

**Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

**MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES**

Survey No. BA 184
Magi No. 0301845304
DOE yes xxno

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Kenilworth

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 1240 Paper Mill Road not for publication

city, town Cockeysville x vicinity of Councilmanic District 3rd
congressional district 2nd

state Maryland county Baltimore County

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<u> </u> district	<u> </u> public	<u>x</u> occupied	<u> </u> agriculture	<u> </u> museum
<u>x</u> building(s)	<u>x</u> private	<u> </u> unoccupied	<u> </u> commercial	<u> </u> park
<u> </u> structure	<u> </u> both	<u> </u> work in progress	<u> </u> educational	<u>x</u> private residence
<u> </u> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<u> </u> entertainment	<u> </u> religious
<u> </u> object	<u> </u> in process	<u> </u> yes: restricted	<u> </u> government	<u> </u> scientific
	<u> </u> being considered	<u>x</u> yes: unrestricted	<u> </u> industrial	<u> </u> transportation
	<u>x</u> not applicable	<u> </u> no	<u> </u> military	<u> </u> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Douglas and Vicki Franz

street & number 1240 Paper Mill Road telephone no.: (o) 539-6727

city, town Cockeysville state and zip code MD 21030

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. County Courts Building liber

street & number 401 Bosley Avenue folio

city, town Towson state MD 21204

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Maryland Historical Trust Inventory

date March 20, 1968 federal x state county local

depository for survey records 100 Community Place

city, town Crownsville state MD 2103

7. Description

Survey No. BA 184

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Kenilworth is a two-segment brick house in Federal style, two stories high, eight bays wide. The east (right hand) segment is the five-bay starter house with a centrally located front door with transom and sidelights. The west (left hand) segment is built of slightly different brick. The west end is three bays wide with a formal Federal entrance of its own, also with transom and sidelights. The western door however is not centered. Brick work is Flemish bond. There is the usual story of bricks from England. If the brick was all burned on the premises, that used in the older eastern segment is more porous and is more reddish. The seam is obvious on the main facade. A full-width, shed-roofed porch runs across the entire front. The cornice is formed of corbelled brick with a curved profile, a feature also found at My Lady's Manor and in Fells Point and Federal Hill according to James T. Wollon, Jr., AIA.

The starter house has a small rear wing intended to house the kitchen downstairs and provide the cook's room above. The end wall of this wing is completely blank and has an inside end-chimney. A frame addition to the east side shelters a passage to the cellar. A full-width porch with upstairs open deck runs the full width of the house on its rear.

Kenilworth is only one room deep, making it what Professor Fred Kniffen has designated an I-house, the letter "I" standing for Indiana, Illinois, and Iowa, where Kniffen first identified that mode of building. (1)

The interior of Kenilworth is well crafted and two good Federal style mantels survive along with six-panel doors, a plain but elegant stairway with heart-of-maple newell post, and some good original random-width flooring. As in most rural houses in this region there were never any ceiling moldings or decorations; the one example of dentiled molding is probably a late embellishment. The French scenic wall paper in one room is probably a mid-20th century addition. The attic is fully plastered, the roofing is old slate applied over old shakes. The basement rafters are round logs with adze marks. Modern steel posts and I-beams shore up the timbers--if they need any support. The interior of this house has suffered little abuse or modernization, apparently no seepage or water damage, thus the fittings are a museum of the Federal period evolving into Greek Revival.

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The layout of the house was reflected in the testamentary inventory of George Jessop, Sr., in 1887 when the rooms were enumerated by the inventory-takers Joshua Evans and Zephaniah Poteet:

Kitchen
Dining Room
Hall
Library
Parlor
2nd floor front room
Room over library
2nd story hall over Dining Room
Servants Room
Garrett
Main Garrett.

Oddly enough, no books were enumerated in the Library. (2)

On the grounds there is a solidly built stone smoke house, also a two-story dwelling sometimes called a slave house, built in the solid style of company town workers' dwellings, with massive stone quoins and stone lintels. Possibly this was the building described as Dr. Charles Ashton Jessop's office in the will of his father, George Jessop, Sr., in 1887. The slave house has an 1834 date stone. To the rear of the present property are the remains of a stone ice house written up in the Sun Magazine by William H. Carroll in 1965. Farther back is a stone carriage house where the upper story is in Queen Anne style, its wall covering being fish-scale shingles. That building bears two dates, one, "G.J. 3 September 1834" and "Repaired December 28, 1890." A large barn with brick louvering and a cupola originally designated MHT Site No. BA 184-B survived on the Towson Nurseries property until demolished to build tract housing in or about 1983.

NOTES:

1. Richard Pillsbury and Andrew Kardos, eds., A Field Guide to the Folk Architecture of the Northeastern United States (Hanover, N.H., n.d.), p. 53.
2. Baltimore County Inventories, Register of Wills Office, Towson, TP 21, f. 359).

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8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1824, 1834 Builder/Architect Unknown

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Kenilworth is a name derived from an 1821 novel by Sir Walter Scott. The novel is set at Kenilworth Castle in Warwickshire, the name supposedly derived from the Saxon word "dwelling of Kenelph." In Baltimore County the Kenilworth property was part of a large tract that included the colonial era Rogers-Nicholson Gouldsmith Mill on Great Gunpowder Falls just upstream of the present Paper Mill Road bridge; the mill ruin or its successor building is on the east bank just about 100 feet upstream of the bridge (Archaeology Site 18 BA 434). (1) Charles Jessop bought the mill in 1811 from William C. Gouldsmith. (2) Jessop already owned property in the area, having acquired another parcel from Mary Nicholson in 1803. (3) The ground under Kenilworth house is apparently the 1770 survey called Benjamin's Hills and Valleys, surveyed for Benjamin Rogers the miller; the Towson deeds fail to name the landgrant.

Starting in 1807, Charles Jessop lived at Vaux Hall, a large house north of Paper Mill Road bridge. He recorded in his farm account book that going to Vaux Hall was his thirteenth move in 21 years. (4) He was a famous ironmaster, miller, road supervisor, millwright, wrestler, Revolutionary veteran, and early Methodist convert. In 1798, Jessop was a partner in Smith and Jessop's Mill on Jones Falls near the present Bath Street in Baltimore City. (5) Late in his life Jessop owned two rural mills, one the Ranleagh or Oxford Mill on Paper Mill Road, the second the Beaver Dam Mill near Oregon Ridge Park that was later known as Shipley's Mill, still later as Bishop's Gold Fish Ranch (MHT Site BA 976). Charles Jessop was described as a native of Sheffield by one newspaper, but his one-paragraph autobiography gives Baltimore County as his birthplace, 1759. (6) He was involved in construction of the first Jessop Methodist Episcopal Church in 1811. (7)

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Kenilworth was traditionally built by Charles Jessop's son, George, its date given as both 1824 and 1834. The year 1824 would be the point when the younger Jessop attained age 21. However, title search shows that the Kenilworth house site came to George Jessop via his father's will dated March 1, 1828. (8) The slave house can be dated exactly by a datestone reading, "G. J. 1834." The carriage house bears the inscription, "G. J. 3 September 1834" and also "Repaired December 28, 1890." (9)

Interestingly enough, Charles Jessop's account book was continued in use by another family member, and in 1834 there is an expense for six pair of hinges and 200 shingles, then on August 9, 1834, an expense for 1,000 shingles.

In 1840 George Jessop married Elizabeth Ashton of Bel Air. (10) The home of G. Jessop was shown at this location by J.C. Sidney and P. J. Browne's 1850 map of Baltimore County. The same George Jessop house was also shown in the 1877 atlas by G. M. Hopkins on the 8th District plate. Jessop was a patron of that atlas, and in the tabulated patron list he was shown to be a native of the county, born in 1803, a farmer, and owner of 334 acres near Ashland Post Office.

No exact date can be given for the first segment of this double brick house nor for its expansion to eight bays in width. George Jessop had seven children by his first wife and two by his second. (11) Elizabeth Ashton Jessop, mother of the seven children, died at age 35 or 37 on May 5, 1854. (12) The house may well have needed expansion in her time.

George Jessop died April 3, 1887. His will described "Kenilworth" as comprised of two lots resurveyed six years before. He bequeathed to son George Jessop, Jr., "my gun known as 'long John.'" The younger George also received the tools in the blacksmith shop. The stoves were to remain in the various houses. Son Dr. Charles Ashton Jessop was to be allowed continued occupancy of the building used as his office. Daughter Georgiana Waltham was to receive "her grandfather Joseph Ashton's portrait copied by Kennedy." All heirs were to have access to the family bible which was to stay at Kenilworth. (13) The inventory of the farm included four horses, three mules, eight cows, 50 hens and cocks, seven Guineas, and a pair of turkeys. (14)

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The descendants of George Jessop petitioned the Circuit Court to divide the property in 1888:

To Partition the Jessop Estate. On the 2d instant, a decree was passed by the Circuit Court for Baltimore County in the equity case of George Jessop vs. Ellen Jessop and seventeen others for the sale of the famous Kenilworth farm near Ashland, the property of the late George Jessop of Charles. Messrs. Charles Marshall, John T. Yellott and William S. Keech were appointed trustees to make the sale, and required to give bond in the sum of \$50,000. Pleasant Hunter, Dennis Matthews, Dr. Benjamin Ridgely, Samuel Rankin and Edward Pearce were appointed commissioners to lay off the widow's dower. (15)

The court-appointed trustees sold the large house and its farm to Dr. William Whitridge in 1890 for \$12,165. (16) Jessop's widow Ellen Ashton Jessop lived until 1906 and is buried at Sherwood P. E. Church, Cockeysville. (17)

Dr. Whitridge's executor sold in 1914 to George A. Schriver for \$17,500. (18) Schriver and wife sold in 1915 to Captain William C. Carroll, a Chesapeake Bay pilot. (19) The Carrolls operated the farm a number of years, specializing in dairy cattle. The Captain's son, William H. Carroll, wrote an article in the Sun Magazine in 1965. (20) Mr. Carroll noted that the Kenilworth ice house was intact but out of use at the time he wrote. He gave 1820 as the date of the main house and claimed that the brick had been brought from England.

The Carrolls sold Kenilworth to Towson Nurseries in 1925. (21) The nursery company sold the house parcel to Lewis Coleman Barbour in 1955. Barbour sold to Dr. Theodore G. deQuevado the same year. Three years later, the doctor executed a strawman deed and retained a life interest in the property, the remainder interest to go to Lewis Coleman Barbour. (22) The house was offered for sale in the Sunday Sun, April 19, 1959, described as "remodeled and redecorated recently", its construction dated at 1834, in an advertisement placed by the Russell T. Baker Company.

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Mr. Barbour, reported to have been the caretaker, eventually inherited the place on Dr. deQuevado's death in 1977. The doctor was presumably a native of Anasco, Puerto Rico, because he provided for the local church there in his will. His will described Mr. Barbour as his secretary and property manager. (23)

On the death of Mr. Barbour, his nephew scheduled an auction of the property which took place October 24, 1996, at which sale Douglas and Vicki Franz were highest bidders. The new owner intend to live there.

NOTES:

1. Elizabeth Anderson Comer, "Preliminary Archaeological Assessment at the Paper Mill Road Bridge, Gunpowder Falls," Baltimore, 1994.
2. Baltimore City Deeds, WG 114:62.
3. Baltimore City Deeds, WG 79:470.
4. Charles Jessop, "Prose from a Farm Ledger," History Trails, 11 (Autumn 1976): 1-5.
5. Maryland Historical Magazine, 31:251.
6. Maryland Journal, April 9, 1887. Also, Maryland Historical Magazine, 76:213-214.
7. Jessop's Meeting House bordered on Kenilworth but its land was donated by John Gorsuch, Jr. The first church was reported as having been demolished to build a new one, Baltimore County Advocate, May 26, 1855. The second, 1855, church partly survives as the foundation story of the elaborate shingle-style church designed by Benjamin Buck Owens that was opened in 1887. The Sun of April 5, 1887, stated that George Jessop "had gone to a large expense in remodeling the Methodist church built by his father." The Jessop ledger proves that Elijah Eagan was contractor for the meeting house.

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8. Baltimore City Wills, WB 13:57.
9. Douglas Franz to John McGrain, December 18, 1996.
10. Baltimore American, May 26, 1840.
11. Maryland Journal, April 9, 1887.
12. Baltimore Sun, May 6, 1854. Also, Helen W. Ridgely, Historic Graves of Maryland, pp. 135-137. The Sun obituary did not mention the name of the estate in 1854.
13. Baltimore County Wills, TP 8:135.
14. Baltimore County Inventories, TP21:389.
15. Maryland Journal, October 6, 1888.
16. Baltimore County Deeds, JWS 184:379.
17. Baltimore County Historical Society cemetery inscriptions, "Sherwood P. E. Church," Vol.2, p. 55.
18. Baltimore County Deeds WPC 426:159.
19. Baltimore County Deeds, WPC 499:65.
20. Sun Magazine, December 12, 1965.
21. Baltimore County Deeds, WPC 616:48.
22. Baltimore County Deeds, GLB 3388:55.
23. Baltimore County Wills, JLD 160:468.

9. Major Bibliographical References

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William H. Carroll, "I Remember. . . When Ice Was Cut from Ponds for Farm Use," Sun Magazine, December 12, 1965.

"Obituary," Maryland Journal, Towson, April 9, 1887.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 3.54

Quadrangle name Cockeysville, Md.

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

See Tax Map 42, Grid 11, Parcel P11.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
None			

state	code	county	code
None			

11. Form Prepared By

name/title John McGrain

organization Office of Planning date November 29, 1996

street & number 401 Bosley Avenue telephone (410) 887-3495

city or town Towson state MD 21204

1. STATE Maryland COUNTY Baltimore TOWN Cockeysville VICINITY Dist. VIII STREET NO. Paper Mill Road		HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY BA-185/87	
ORIGINAL OWNER ORIGINAL USE PRESENT OWNER PRESENT USE WALL CONSTRUCTION NO. OF STORIES		2. NAME Kenilworth DATE OR PERIOD 1820 STYLE ARCHITECT BUILDER	
4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION		3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE OPEN TO PUBLIC	
<p>Long, two-story, brick house, with dormers, porches on front and rear, large end chimneys -- old stone barn (1834) with patterned brick; two-story stone slave quarters. Built by Charles Jessop for his son George. Name derives from "Kenilworth Tract." Now owned by Towson Nurseries.</p> <p>(second HABS report) E. Frances Offutt HABS COMMITTEE OF BALTIMORE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY March 20, 1968</p>			
5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered		Interior Exterior	
6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)		7. PHOTOGRAPH	
3. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages) INTERVIEWS, RECORDS, PHOTOS, ETC.		9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER DATE OF RECORD	